



Tuesday, December 6, 2022 at 1:00 PM
Valley Sanitary District Board Room
45500 Van Buren St., Indio, CA 92201

**OPERATIONS
COMMITTEE MEETING
AGENDA**

Valley Sanitary District is open to the public and board meetings will be conducted in person. In addition to attending in person, members of the public may view and participate in meeting via the following:

Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89601182584>

Meeting ID: 896 0118 2584

To address the Board of Directors during the virtual live session via zoom, please email the Clerk of the Board at hgould@valley-sanitary.org or, alternatively, during the specific agenda item or general comment period (i.e. non-agenda items), please use the "raise your hand" function in zoom in order to be recognized by the Clerk of the Board in order to provide comments in real time.

The Clerk of the Board will facilitate to the extent possible any email requests to provide oral testimony that are sent during the live meeting. Members of the public may provide Oral testimony in person or during the virtual live session and are limited to three minutes each. To address the Board in person please complete speaker request card located at in the Board Room and give it to the Clerk of the Board.

If you are unable to provide comments during the meeting, written public comments on agenda or non-agenda items may be submitted by email to the Clerk of the Board at hgould@valley-sanitary.org. Written comments must be received by the Clerk of the Board no later than 11:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. PUBLIC COMMENT
5. DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS
 - 5.1 [Approve Minutes for October 4, 2022, Regular Committee Meeting](#)

Recommendation: Approve

5.2 [Discuss Update on Capital Improvement Projects and Schedule](#)

Recommendation: Discuss

6. ADJOURNMENT

*POSTED December 1, 2022
Holly Gould
Clerk of the Board
Valley Sanitary District*

PUBLIC NOTICE

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, access to the Board Room and Public Restrooms has been made. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact Valley Sanitary District (760) 235-5400. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA TITLE II). All public records related to open session items contained on this Agenda are available upon request at the Administrative Office of Valley Sanitary District located at 45-500 Van Buren Street, Indio, CA 92201. Copies of public records are subject to fees and charges for reproduction.



Valley Sanitary District

DATE: December 6, 2022
TO: Operations Committee
FROM: Holly Gould, Clerk of the Board
SUBJECT: Approve Minutes for October 4, 2022, Regular Committee Meeting

Suggested Action

Approve

Strategic Plan Compliance

GOAL 6: Improve Planning, Administration and Governance

Fiscal Impact

None

Background

The meeting minutes of the Operations Committee Meeting held on October 4, 2022.

Attachments

[4 Oct 2022 Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

**VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**
October 4, 2022

A regular meeting of the Valley Sanitary District (VSD) Operations Committee was held at Valley Sanitary District, 45-500 Van Buren St, Indio, CA, on Tuesday, October 4, 2022.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ron Buchwald called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Committee Members Present:
Chairperson William Teague
Committee Member Mike Duran

Staff Present:
Beverli Marshall, Holly Gould, Ron Buchwald, Dave Commons, Jeanette Juarez, and Anna Bell

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

This is the time set aside for public comment on any item not appearing on the agenda. Please notify the Secretary in advance of the meeting if you wish to speak on a non-hearing item.

None.

3. DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

3.1 Approve Minutes for August 2, 2022, Regular Committee Meeting

Committee member Mike Duran motioned to approve the minutes of the August 2, 2022, Operations Committee Regular Meeting. Chair William Teague seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

3.2 Provide Update on CIP Projects and the Need for a New Rate Study

Ron Buchwald, District Engineer, gave an update on the Influent Pump Station, Collection System Rehabilitation and Replacement Downtown project, and Recycled Water Project – Phase 1. He stated that the Influent Pump Station project is seeing delays of up to six months for certain parts and equipment, such as ductile iron pipe and the new pump. The project will require a sewer main bypass for about six months. So far, project costs have not increased due to the delays in acquiring parts, but if this continues, there may be no other choice. The current budget for this project is \$3,300,000. Mr. Buchwald informed the Committee that the Collection System Rehab and Replacement Downtown Project is currently out to bid. The bid opening is scheduled for October 12, 2022. The Engineer's Estimate is \$2,745,358, which includes a 10% contingency. The concern is that the delays in finding certain materials, including PVC pipe, will cause bid prices to increase. The current construction budget for this project is \$3,666,667.

The Recycled Water Project – Phase 1 is also moving towards construction with an anticipated date to begin construction in February 2023. This project is currently completing the design portion. This project is also experiencing delays in parts and equipment. On October 6, 2022, Schneider Electric will provide the anticipated construction cost for the Rotary Screw Thickener (RST) at 30%, the last remaining item in the project design. We will learn then of the upward price pressures the delays in equipment are having on the construction costs. The original estimated construction cost of the RST was \$10,000,000. The increasing cost of construction projects is affecting the VSD's Capital Improvement Program. The budget is already unable to keep up with all the projects VSD wants to accomplish, such as the Office & Training Building and Laboratory Building. The Collection System Rehabilitation and Replacement project will most likely need to be extended from the original 10-year program to the current 12-year program or longer. A new rate study is being planned with NBS to review the CIP projects, and what rate adjustments would be necessary under different scenarios, such as moving forward with all projects or delaying some and moving forward with others.

3.3 Discuss the Need for Additional Laboratory Technician

With the upcoming implementation of the Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS), the compliance requirements of the ELAP-TNI certification renewal, the additional sampling that is now taking place, and the need for redundancy for the Environmental Compliance Technician, it has become clear that the Laboratory and Compliance Department needs additional staff. Another staff member in the department will allow schedule flexibility for additional programs and events like wastewater surveillance, outreach programs, and attending conferences. The added position will reduce the need for assistance from the Operations Department during times of conferences and leave requests (i.e., sick, vacation, FMLA, jury duty, etc.) – which requires prior preparations in ensuring Operations staff are fully trained and documented to assist in the Laboratory functions. The additional member will also create more flexibility for trained staff that can function in the capability of the laboratory or the pretreatment program. The District can help offset the cost of hiring an additional laboratory worker by \$31,200 by utilizing the stipend provided by the Verily WastewaterSCAN program. Anna Bell, Laboratory & Compliance Supervisor, gave a presentation to the Committee detailing the departmental and District need for additional support. Staff will bring this item before the board on October 11, 2022.

Ron Buchwald, District Engineer, informed the Committee that staff would bring the Vactor purchase to the Board on October 25, 2022.

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 2:06 p.m. The next regular committee meeting will be held on December 6, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
Holly Gould, Clerk of the Board
Valley Sanitary District



Valley Sanitary District

DATE: December 6, 2022
TO: Operations Committee
FROM: Ron Buchwald, PE
SUBJECT: Discuss Update on Capital Improvement Projects and Schedule

Suggested Action

Discuss

Strategic Plan Compliance

GOAL 3: Excellent Facilities

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact from this report.

Environmental Review

The capital improvement projects discussed in this report have either been through the CEQA environmental review process or are in the process of going through the CEQA environmental process.

Background

VSD has three projects in the early stages of construction: Influent Pump Station, Collection System Rehabilitation and Replacement Indio Downtown project, and Recycled Water Project – Phase 1. A fourth project, Westward Ho Sewer Siphon Replacement project is set to begin construction by spring of 2023.

The sewer main by-pass of the influent pump station is in operation and is set to operate through the end of March of 2023. Work within the pump station began on November 15, 2022. Pump station clean up and piping demolition is in progress. Liner repairs is set to begin the week of December 12 followed by installation of new slides gates. Influent pump station rehabilitation work will continue through March 2023.

The Collection System Rehabilitation and Replacement Indio Downtown project has been awarded to GRBCON Construction. The contract has been signed, and the bonds and insurance have been

received. Staff and the contractor met with the City of Indio to discuss acquiring the necessary permits. This work is in process. Construction is anticipated to begin in January 2023.

The Recycled Water Project - Phase 1 has begun mobilization of office trailers and equipment in anticipation of beginning construction work in March/April 2023. 100% design plans of five of the six components have been submitted for staff review and 60% design plans of the 6th component (the rotary screw thickeners) have also been submitted for staff review. Once the plans for the rotary screw thickeners have been approved by staff, Schneider Electric along with their contractors and subcontractors will begin the process of establishing the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP).

As with the first five items, the GMP is the price established at the 60% design that will be included in the contract via contract amendment #2 that will set the price for that work through final design and construction. The GMP will be presented to the Board for approval in February 2023. A schedule has been provided with this staff report showing key dates for GMP submittals, amendment approval by legal, and for Board approval of the GMP. Once approved, this will complete the last phase of this project. The rotary screw thickeners will be folded into the original project's construction scheduling which is anticipated to be completed by May 2025.

The Westward Ho Sewer Siphon Replacement project is currently going through the CEQA process. A public hearing is scheduled for December 13, 2022, for the Board to adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration. The final step will be to submit this approval to the Riverside County Clerk.

Staff is still waiting on final review from FEMA, which will include their own environmental review of this project. FEMA review is expected by January 2023 according to CalOES. This project cannot move forward without this final review and clearance, which may come with additional requirements to complete before moving forward to construction.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Operations Committee review and discuss this report.

Attachments

[VSD Key Dates_Amendment 2.pdf](#)

Upcoming Key Dates for Amendment #2

	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR
Technical/ Scope	Mid-Term Meeting Oct. 6 th	VSD Design Review Kick-Off Mtg. Dec. 2 nd		Final Planning Mtg. (GMP) Date TBD		
Legal		Circulate Draft Amendment 2	Populate with Scope	Add Price, Amendment 2 for review	Finalize Amendment 2	
Funding	Present Budgetary Pricing			Final GMP; Funding options		
Committee Meetings			Ron update Operations	Present: Budget & Finance	Present: Operations	
Board of Directors				Present as Informational Item prior?	Board Approval Amendment 2	Final Design; construction

Blue = in person meetings